Eighth Schedule. We realise that this is an emotive issue as far as the people of that area are concerned. The position now is that this is not one of the demands which Mr. Ghising is now projecting, in the forefront. In fact, he has left it to other organisations.

We think that the basic political questions must be resolved. And if in the process of the resolution of those questions, the issue does come up, we can examine this issue also. But let me say we do not believe that the development of a language depends upon its inclusion in the 8th Schedule. I have repeatedly pointed out that there are only two articles of the Constitution which deal with the 8th Schedule and neither of the two articles has any impact upon either the development or promotion of the language or the cultural and linguistic identity of the people.

Statehood for Goa

*82. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:†
SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision regarding the question of granting Statehood to Goa; and

(b) if so, by when legislation to this effect is expected to be brought before Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) Soon after the final decision is taken, necessary legislation to give effect to it will be brought before Parliament.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Pramod Mahajan.

श्री प्रमोद महाजन : सभापति जी, गोआ राज्य की आज की भौगोलिक सीमाओं ने पोर्तगीज की गुलामी के इतिहास को शाश्वत बना रखा है। दीव-दमन गोआ से लगभग 8 सौ किलोमीटर दूरी पर है । आज भी गोआ ही से जुड़ा हुआ है। गोआ की भाषा कोंकणी और मराठी होते हुए दीव-दमन की भाषा गुजराती है इसलिए गोआ को राज्य का दर्जा देते समय दीव-दमन को गुजरात से जोड़ देना ज्यादा उचित एवं न्यायोचित होगा । मैं गृह मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हू कि गोआ को राज्य का दर्जा देते समय क्या गोआ की भौगोलिक सीमायें आज जैसी ही होंगी या दीव-दमन को गुजरात के साथ जोड़ा जाएगा और इस विधान सभा की सम्भावित सदस्य संख्या क्या होगी ?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: It is just having on a headache without a head. I explained to the hon. Member that the Government is in serious consideration because this is a long-cherished desire of the people of the Union territory of Goa, Daman and Diu. Our Prime Minister and the Government have responded well to the longcherished desire of the people of Goa, Daman and Diu. Now the question is that the whole process has to be worked out. Then we shall come to a final decision.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: It seems the Government is having headache without head.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: He has not understood the question, Sir.

श्री प्रमोद महाजन : मैं दूसरा प्रश्न यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि प्रथम राज्य पुनर्रचना आयोग के बाद हमने राज्य की श्रेणियां समाप्त कर केवल राज्यों को राज्य और केन्द्र शासित प्रदेशों में रखा। धीरे-धीरे सरकार सभी केन्द्र शासित प्रदेशों को राज्य का दर्जा दे रही है लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से इस संबंध में कोई मापदण्ड या पूर्ण विचार दिखाई नहीं देता है। 5-5 लाख के मिजोरम, अरुणा-

चल प्रदेश बने हैं, 10 लाख के गोआ को प्रदेश बनाने के लिए सरकार सोच रही है और 75 लाख की दिल्ली अभी भी केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश है उसे राज्य का दर्जा देने के संबंध में सरकार सोच नहीं रही है जब कि सोचना चाहिए। इसलिए मैं माननीय गृह मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूं कि गोआ को राज्य का दर्जा देते समय क्या कोई एक निश्चित मापदण्ड तय किया जायेगा और उसके अनुसार जितने भी केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश गोआ के समान हों उनको राज्य का दर्जा मिलेगा ?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: I have already answered this question. I quite appreciate the sentiments of the hon. Member. We also quite appreciate the cherished desires of the people of Goa. I have already said that the number of Union territories is declining and at the appropriate time decisions are being taken whenever people demand that they want Statehood.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: There should be some criteria in deciding this. What is the criteria?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: We are working out the whole process. The people wanted Statehood. This aspiration of the people is being worked out. Because it must come in the form of a legislation.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: What about Delhi?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Sir, it is not relevant.

SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: The people of Goa have been demanding separate Statehood for Goa for a long time, since their liberation in December 1961. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will assure the House that the Statehood would be granted to Goa within a year, because his answer of (b) contemplates serious thinking by the Central Government about granting of Statehood to Goa.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: I quite appreciate her feeling, but a year is too long. I visited these places and they wanted Statehood immediately.

SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: At least, within a year, you should consider this. I am giving a long time for you.

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Sir, the hon. Minister himself admitted that the demand for Statehood of Goa is long pending. Why then the Government has not taken an early decision? If Statehood is given to some Union Territories and if the proposal is delayed or denied to some other Union Territories, will it not mean partisan? I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the time of the elected assembly is extended to December 1989. Will the assembly be dissolved if the Statehood is given or will it be given extension?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are putting all hypothetical questions. First of all, they have not yet decided to give Statehood. You ask if the Statehood is given... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Sir, by when the Government will give Statehood to Goa and instead of giving Statehood to each and every Union Territory in a piecemeal manner, why then the Government should not bring a comprehensive plan to give statehood to all Union Territories including Delhi?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Sir, this is always taken into consideration and whenever the occasion arises, these decisions are taken to fulfil the desires of the people of the Territory.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now as there is no proposal yet to

grant Statehood to Goa, may I know from the hon. Minister that when Diu and Daman are just adjacent to Gujarat and Goa is adjacent to Maharashtra, is there any proposal to join Goa with Maharashtra and Diu and Daman with Gujarat?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question is out of order.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: No, if Statehood is not accepted, then why should it not be answered? It should be answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I will not allow.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Sir, if Statehood is not accepted, is there any proposal like this? Let the Minister answer yes or no.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you hear me? The question is when are you giving Statehood to Goa? You say, Statehood should not be given to Goa. It should be merged with some other State. Therefore, it is out of order.

Now, Mr. Narayanasamy.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I may be permitted to put a related question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Home Minister when I wrote a letter relating to Statehood for Pondicherry replied that the population is the criterion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, this is also out of order.

श्री शंकर सिंह वाघेला : चेयरमैन सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जनता के नाम कहा जाता है कि गोआ के लोग इस अभिप्राय के हैं कि अपना शासन अलग कर एक राज्य हो। क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ऐसे राज्यों को विशेष छूट देती है कोई इन्कम टैक्स, सेल्ज टैक्स या ऐसे टैक्सेज के बारे में जिस से कि लोगों को अलग रहने में अपना आनन्द हो या निजी अस्तित्व का सवाल हो, जैसे दीव एवं दमन का सवाल है। गुजरात ड्राई एरिया है, पीने के लिए उनको अलग चाहिए। एक ही मामला उसमें है। वह कोई लौजिक नहीं है। तो केन्द्रीय सरकार की क्या सुविधायें वहां के लिए मिलती हैं जिस से कि वे अलग रहना चाहते हैं?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Sir, I hope, the hon. Member means that Daman and Diu should be separate.

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: The problem is not like that. Why people are interested to have their own identity and which kind of benefit the Central Government is giving to that particular territory?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Sir, so far as Union territory is concerned, we are giving all kinds of help to develop all the Union territories. Recently, I visited Dadra, Nagar Haveli and Daman and found that they have developed so well.

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: There is no development.

Purchase of a Supercomputer from USA

*83. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:†
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's response to the reported US offer of an old model supercomputer instead of the latest version that India has been seeking for long range weather forecasting;

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Veena Verma.